



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

from haughtiness and an overweening opinion of his own power, partly from suspiciousness, "the trick of suspicion usually the characteristic of small minds," and from contempt for the pettiness so often shown by his fellow-politicians. Because of these characteristics he stood apart and aloof while events were preparing for the great tragedy of the empire—the separation of the American colonies, which he foresaw and of which he so passionately warned the nation. The portraits with which the book is illustrated are well reproduced and serve to give substance to some of the shadowy sketches of Pitt's contemporaries with which the book abounds.

A. G. PORRITT.

The Military Life of Field-Marshal George First Marquess Townshend, 1724-1807. By Lt. Colonel C. V. F. TOWNSHEND, C.B. (London: John Murray. 1901. Pp. vii, 340.)

THIS is a very wearisome and futile volume; that it is so will perhaps be sufficiently explained by saying that it is in effect a family vindication of an unimportant ancestor, prepared by the present heir to the noble house of Townshend at the request of his grandfather. But family vindications, though always suspicious, are sometimes of much interest and value; it is quite conceivable that the military history of Great Britain in the later eighteenth century might have been illustrated in a valuable manner from the standpoint of the unattractive career of the first Marquess Townshend. It is necessary to point out clearly that this has not happened, and that the present volume is not only a failure as a vindication but is practically useless for any other purpose. It is not clear why the military career of George Townshend should have been chosen as the field of this vindication, seeing that he played a greater part in the political world and that his political fame is even more in need of rescue. However that may be, the fact remains that practically nothing is here added to our knowledge that is of importance or even interest; the material afforded by the papers of George Townshend is apparently of little value and his biographer has had no conception of how to make his work of any general interest. The claim made in the Preface that "The part of the work which describes the expedition to Quebec will be found to give many military details which up to now have been wanting in all histories of that memorable epoch" is entirely unwarranted, no new fact whatever of any importance being added to the standard accounts. "It will be seen," he adds, "that the unexpected and surprising manner in which Quebec was taken was the plan of the Brigadiers and not of Wolfe"; the uninformed reader would hardly expect to find that the facts here brought forward have long been known, that they are known on the testimony of Wolfe himself (Letter to the Earl of Holderness, Sept. 9, 1759. Here reprinted in full), and that they are embodied in the chief narratives, such as those of Parkman and Kingsford.

It is of course not to be expected that amateur and gentlemanly work (or play) of this kind should be in accord with the prejudices of modern

historical criticism ; but the degree of departure from these canons that we find here is at times startling. The book is written apparently almost wholly from the papers of the hero, but we are not given any description of this material or any exact references to it, and might infer that the writer was wholly unaware that the archives of his own family had been described in the Appendix to the eleventh *Report of the Historical Manuscripts Commission* (Part IV., 1887. See "Letters and Papers relating to the Siege of Quebec," pp. 306-328). He complains that he has been unable to find Wolfe's general orders, though he had seen them earlier in the collection and in fact they are catalogued in the *Report of the Historical Manuscripts Commission*. That he is apparently wholly unaware that these orders are printed entire in the *Collections* of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec (Fourth Series, No. 2, 1875) would justify us in concluding that he is ignorant of, or has not consulted, this most important body of material for the event to which he gives half of his volume and in regard to which he imagines he is contributing to history. He indeed asserts, "I write this account of the expedition to Quebec entirely from the Marquess' Journal"; this Journal is used in the most confusing manner, under the date-headings of the original but for the most part in the biographer's own language. Letters are inserted without dates or references ; the usual liberties in the way of modernizing are taken with quotations, in regard to which we are lucky if we get any more explicit information than "from a French account." The narrative is disjointed, and we have the impression that the author takes almost as little interest in his work as he leaves with his reader.

The subject of this volume, "Field-Marshal George First Marquess Townshend," was born in 1724. Family interest gave him, the heir to the title (which in 1787 he was to advance from Viscount to Marquess), an easy access to military posts, and he served at an early age in the later years of the War of the Austrian Succession ; even the family biographer is unable to recount any exploits and the hero's name indeed rarely occurs in the hundred pages that are devoted to these campaigns in Germany and the Netherlands. We are given much detail of the battles of Dettingen, Fontenoy, Culloden and Laffeldt, which may have interest for the military historian ; the general student will reflect regretfully on the ways in which these campaigns might have been made to illustrate at least the military manners of the time. On the coming of peace Townshend entered the House of Commons, and in 1757 acquired some prominence as the reputed author of a Militia Bill ; he seems also to have acquired special note—and, we should judge, also unpopularity—by his skill in caricature, which Walpole tells us (*Memoirs of the Reign of Geo. III.*, I. 18) he was the first to apply to politics. In 1759 he was appointed one of Wolfe's three brigadier-generals for the expedition to Quebec. This was against Wolfe's wish, who seems to have personally disliked him, and who was probably conscious that Townshend represented the professional and class jealousies that were assailing him. Through the death of Wolfe and the severe wound of Monckton, Townshend was

put in command of the force investing Quebec after the victory on the Heights of Abraham and received the surrender of the town. He was later thanked by the House of Commons for these services. His only other important appearance in his long remaining life (he died in 1807) was his term as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland 1767-1772; this lies outside of the range of this volume, and the author leaves it with the assertion that "he displayed the same genius as an administrator that he had shown as a general" (322)—an assertion that may be compared with Walpole's severe censures (III. 79; IV. 231), and with Lecky's statement that he was "entirely destitute of tact and judgment" (IV. 434).

The expedition to Quebec was the most notable incident in Townshend's military life, and to it his biographer devotes one-half of his volume. It is here also that the book aims at vindication. For the prominence into which fate had thrust Wolfe's lieutenant was unfortunate for him; in the words of Lecky (IV. 402), his conduct at this time "had not raised his fame, for he was accused of having persistently thwarted Wolfe during his lifetime and of having endeavoured after his death to rob him by a very invidious silence of the honor of the capture of Quebec." The matter is now of small moment, and the present effort in Townshend's defense might be left simply with the remark that it is very ineffective, but for the fact that like the original effort it is made at Wolfe's expense. Throughout the narrative there is steady disparagement of Wolfe; his whole plan of operations before Quebec is attacked, his early failures are emphasized; not only is he denied all credit for the final plan, but an effort is made to show that victory was not secure at his death and was made so only by the merits of Townshend. And all this purely on Townshend's assertions.

The main point insisted on by our author is that the plan by which Quebec was taken was not Wolfe's, but that of the brigadiers. I have pointed out above that in a general way this is correct, and so reported by Wolfe himself; if there were space I should like to show that Wolfe was in all probability too careless of his own reputation, that he had earlier fully considered this general change of plan, *i. e.*, transferring the attack above the town, and that he had concluded the enterprise to be then too hazardous. The difficulties and great risks of attack above are clearly pointed out by him in a letter of September 2 (*Gentleman's Magazine*, October, 1759); that he did not exaggerate these, that he was perfectly right in considering an attack from this side almost impracticable and not to be attempted till all expedients below the town had been exhausted, will be clear to any one who reads carefully the narrative of the final movement, and perceives how much its success was owing to a number of fortunate accidents, skilfully or luckily turned to account, and to the mistakes and want of unison of the French. All that could be claimed for the brigadiers was their general suggestion; the exact form and the execution of the attack is entirely Wolfe's. Our author is not content to have Townshend share in the general credit of the brigadiers, but would have us believe that the plan originated with Townshend.

For this idea he produces absolutely no evidence, simply repeating three times an unsupported statement to this effect by Warburton in his *Conquest of Canada*; how much more likely it is that Townshend (as was charged at the time) had really opposed the enterprise is shown by the most unheroic letter which he writes to his wife while the preparations for it were going on (p. 210). The vindicator of the military reputation of George Townshend could hardly have done him a worse turn than the printing of this letter side by side with that nobly despondent one written by Wolfe four days before his death.

VICTOR COFFIN.

Mirabeau et la Provence. Première partie, du 14 Mai 1770 au 5 Mai 1789. Par GEORGES GUIBAL. Deuxième édition. (Paris : Albert Fontemoing. 1901. Pp. x, 430.)

IN this second edition of the first volume on *Mirabeau et la Provence* published in 1887, Professor Guibal has really produced a new work. The size of the page, with the addition of one hundred and twenty pages, increases the contents of the volume more than a third. Although more or less important changes in the text are met with throughout the work, the difference between the first and second edition is chiefly due to the much fuller treatment in the second of the life of Mirabeau previous to 1789. To this subject, the first edition devoted one hundred and three pages; the second devotes two hundred and thirty-two. The arrangement of the volume also has been somewhat changed.

From the point of view of historical method, the volume leaves little to be desired. The sources have been practically exhausted; the facts have been carefully established and the evidence exactly given for every statement; the facts have been combined into a clear and detailed whole, and presented in an unusually objective and impartial narrative. Here is a bit of work finally done; work that may safely be used in the construction of a life of Mirabeau.

For the periods of Mirabeau's life of which it treats, Professor Guibal's book will be more helpful to the investigator than the works of Loménie and Stern. Stern did not make use of the manuscript sources to be found in Provence, while Loménie is lacking in the exact citation of evidence. This defect in Loménie's method lessens the usefulness of his otherwise very valuable work.

The value of Professor Guibal's volume is due not a little to the time and place of writing. Never again will conditions so favorable to the study of Mirabeau and Provence exist as those that prevailed at Aix during the half century that has just closed. Here was the theater of many of the most dramatic scenes in Mirabeau's life; not far away, on the bank of the Durance, is the old family château, inhabited at times by the Montigny, descendants of Mirabeau's adopted son; Manosque, Grasse, Marseille, and the Château d'If are all within the boundaries of Provence. What more natural than that a Mirabeau cult, creating conditions favorable to historical research, should spring up at Aix? His statue stands